

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 00267 102347Z  
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8220

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 0267

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OAS SHUM UY  
SUBJ: URUGUAY'S INVITATION TO OASGA

REF: STATE 5850

1. I PRESENTED OUR CASE TO FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE DURING A MEETING ON JANUARY 10. I STRESSED OUR VIEW THAT THE INTEGRITY OF THE INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM AS A WHOLE WAS AT STAKE IN URUGUAY'S ATTEMPT TO DENIGRATE THE IAHC AND DIVIDE IT FROM THE OAS. I ASKED FOR PERU'S COOPERATION IN INDUCING THE GOU TO INVITE A VISIT FROM THE IAHC BEFORE THE VOTE ON THE OASGA VENUE.

2. DE LA PUENTE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED A PERSONAL LETTER FROM THE URUGUAYAN FOREIGN MINISTER URGING PERUVIAN SUPPORT FOR MONTEVIDEO AS THE SITE. HIS REPLY WAS TO THE EFFECT THAT THE GOU WOULD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TRADITIONAL POLICY, GO ALONG WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN CONSENSUS. THAT IS PERU'S POSITION AT THE MOMENT.

3. THE MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT HE COULD UNDERSTAND OUR CONCERN. IN ADDITION, IT WAS HIS VIEW  
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THAT THE OAS HAD ALREADY LOST CONSIDERABLE PRESTIGE BY MEETING IN GRENADA (A POINT WITH WHICH I AGREED) AND COULD ILL AFFORD FURTHER DAMAGING ACTIONS OF THAT KIND. AT THE SAME TIME, HE DID NOT WANT TO CONTRIBUTE TO AN UGLY CONFRONTATION IN THE PERMANENT COUNCIL. HE THEN NOTED THAT ARGENTINA AND CHILE WERE NO DOUBT SUPPORTING THE GOU.

4. DE LA PUENTE ASKED ME TO REVIEW AGAIN WHAT IT WAS WE WANTED THE GOU TO DO. COULD THE INVITATION TO THE IAHRC COME AFTER THE VOTE ON THE BASIS OF SOME KIND OF INFORMAL UNDERSTANDING? I SAID I UNDERSTOOD IT COULD NOT. A WRITTEN INVITATION WOULD HAVE TO PRECEDE THE VOTE FOR US NOT TO OPPOSE. THE MINISTER OBSERVED THAT THIS SEEMED A RATHER "HARD" CONDITION PRECEDENT.

5. NEVERTHELESS, HE CONCLUDED BY UNDERTAKING TO SEND MARCHAND INSTRUCTIONS TO URGE UPON HIS URUGUAYAN COLLEAGUE THE DESIRABILITY OF AGREEING TO AN IAHRC VISIT AS A MEANS OF FACILITATING THE SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM.

5. COMMENT: I SUSPECT THOSE INSTRUCTIONS -- IF THEY ARE IN FACT SENT -- WILL BE ALONG THE LINES THAT MARCHAND SHOULD SEEK A FACE-SAVING FORMULA, A COMPROMISE IF ONE IS POSSIBLE. AT THIS POINT DE LA PUENTE WANTS NO FIGHTS WITH ANYONE AND, AS I ANTICIPATED, IS CONCERNED ABOUT THE ATTITUDES OF ARGENTINA AND CHILE. (HE REMARKED EARLIER IN THE MEETING THAT, FORTUNATELY FOR THE COUNTRY, PERU HAS NO IMMEDIATE EXTERNAL POLITICAL PROBLEMS AT THIS MOMENT OF ECONOMIC CRISIS.)

6. I DO THINK, HOWEVER, THAT HIS CONCERN FOR THE INTER-CONFIDENTIAL

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AMERICAN SYSTEM IS GENUINE AND THAT WHAT I HAD TO SAY MADE SOME IMPACT. IT IS WORTH NOTING IN THAT CONTEXT THAT MARCHAND IS RESPECTED AND HAS SOME INFLUENCE IN THE MINISTRY HERE. HE COULD BE HELPFUL IN CONVEYING TO DE LA PUENTE A SENSE OF THE GRAVITY OF THE ISSUE.

7. ANY FEEDBACK FROM MARCHAND USOAS MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE WOULD BE APPRECIATED. I WILL BE PLEASED TO RENEW THE EFFORT WITH DE LA PUENTE AT ANY MOMENT THAT APPEARS DESIRABLE.  
SHLAUDEMAN

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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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